FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 MAY 1984

Lebanon

New Cabinet — Prime Minister Rashid Karami, in a statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio, announced the formation of a 10-man cabinet in which Camille Sham'un, Pierre al-Jumayyil, Nabih Birri, and Walid Junblatt are allocated portfolios. In remarks reported by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, however, Birri rejected his appointment as minister for water and electrical resources and justice, asserting that the position would keep him out of touch with developments in the south and that the assignment of posts was not in line with the agreement concluded in Damascus. The Amal Movement leader subsequently declined President Amin al-Jumayyil's request that he join the new government, Beirut radio disclosed. Voice of Lebanon radio said Birri has been summoned to Damascus for consultations with the Syrians, who are "satisfied and pleased" with Karami's cabinet, according to a Syrian source cited by Radio Monte Carlo.

Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram described the new cabinet as "disappointing" and said his organization will adopt a position of "sincere and constructive opposition," Voice of Lebanon reported. The naming of the new ministers "surprised" Christian leaders Camille Sham'un and Pierre al-Jumayyil and they asked for "some time" before expressing any opinion, according to the radio. Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt and several other appointees also deferred judgment on the cabinet, the radio noted. Karami appointed Junblatt minister of public works, transport, and tourism; Sham'un minister of finance, housing, and cooperatives; and Pierre al-Jumayyil minister of posts, communications, health, and social affairs. Karami designated himself foreign minister and named the Shi'ite former speaker of parliament 'Adil 'Usayran minister of defense.

Security Situation — Shelling continued across the contact lines in Beirut early on 1 May as 15 people were injured in clashes in the city the previous day, Beirut radio reported. Four IDF soldiers were injured by another roadside bomb explosion in southern Lebanon, according to Jerusalem radio.

PLO Affairs

Salah Khalaf USSR Visit — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf's visit to the USSR has been postponed until the "first half of May" because of the Soviet leadership's "preoccupation" with the 1 May celebrations "and other issues," KUNA reported citing "informed Palestinian sources." The sources denied there are any differences between the USSR and the PLO leadership.

'Arafat Remarks — Comprehensive negotiations to solve the Middle East problem should be held in the Security Council, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat proposed in a statement to a British newspaper reported by Baghdad Voice of PLO Radio. This would allow the USSR to play its role in peacemaking, he argued. In his statement 'Arafat dismissed the possibility that the United States will be able to achieve any progress toward a solution in the region. Regarding the PLO view of Israel, 'Arafat observed that recognition occurs between two states; in its current status, it is impossible for the PLO to exercise this right.

Israel

Sabotage Suspects — The police have detained 19 people in connection with the attempt to sabotage Arab buses, Jerusalem radio disclosed. Investigations have revealed that three people were responsible for planting the explosives, the radio said. Several of the suspects are well known as prominent "second-rank" Jewish settlement lobbyists, according to *THE JERUSALEM POST*.

Consul's Return — The Egyptian consul in Elat has returned to Israel after spending 2 weeks in Cairo in response to the unauthorized salvage of an Israeli yacht from Egyptian territorial waters, *HA'ARETZ* reported.

Sudan

Emergency state regulations issued by President Ja'far Numayri and carried by SUNA empower authorities to open and censor mail, impose curfews, restrict residence in certain areas, institute house arrest, conduct searches, and impound property. The regulations also ban work stoppages and authorize the president to set up emergency courts.

Reacting to Numayri's declaration of a state of emergency, Tripoli radio asserted that his regime has "lost its nerve" and is adopting "oppressive measures" to control the deteriorating situation and delay its "inevitable collapse."

Libya

Libya is prepared to withdraw its "presence" from Chad so that France will have no justification for maintaining troops in that country, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi declared in a statement on French television reported by Paris radio.

Afghanistan

Soviet aircraft continued their heavy bombardment of the Panjsher valley, and Soviet-DRA forces have advanced 30 miles into the valley in the wake of a "tactical withdrawal" by Ahmad Shah Masud's guerrillas, according to reports cited by Karachi radio and AFP.

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Rebels Withdraw; Soviets Move 30 Miles Into Panjsher

BK301438 Hong Kong AFP in English 1420 GMT 30 Apr 84

(Text] Islamabad, April 30 (AFP) — Soviet and Afghan forces reached 50 km (30 miles) into the Panjsher valley Saturday because Afghan guerrillas withdrew for tactical reasons, according to an Afghan source who returned today to Peshawar, near the Pakistani border, from Kabul.

Once inside the valley, the Soviets set up a bridgehead near the town of Rokhah, beyond which the valley narrows as it enters the Hindu Kush Mountain chain, the source said. The source had been in Kabul gathering information about the military situation in the Panjsher valley.

The rebels were carrying out hit-and-run operations on the Red Army's rear guard at the mouth of the valley about 50 km from Kabul to hinder the arrival of reinforcements at the Rokhah base, he said.

A Western diplomat here said commander Ahmad Shah Masud, the rebel leader based in the Panjsher valley, successfully defended his territory in the same way against six previous Soviet offensives.

The Afghan source said the guerrillas destroyed 72 Soviet vehicles, including tanks and personnel carriers, as well as at least two planes and five helicopters. About 500 Afghan soldiers deserted, the source said. He also reported having heard a rumor that the Soviets massacred about 50 civilians along the road linking the Soviet Union and Kabul in reprisals for the rebel destruction of several strategic bridges on that road last week. The raod was reopened April 28.

The source also said resistance activity in Kabul itself has increased following a two-month lull. On April 26, he said, a bomb exploded in the ranks of Afghan Communist Party militants marching on the sixth anniversary of the nation's "April revolution," and at least three other bombs were detonated in other parts of the city on April 24 and 25. No casualty reports were available on any of these explosions.

Western diplomats here confirmed that resistance in Kabul had been stepped up, but were unable to give further details.

Meanwhile, a guerrilla spokesman in Peshawar said that about 1,000 rebels were moving towards the Panjsher valley, following an appeal from Mr Masud.

First Week of Panjsher Valley Offensive Assessed

TA301536 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Western diplomats in Islamabad have been giving their assessment of the first week of the Soviet and Afghan offensive against the Afghan resistance stronghold in the Panjsher valley. It seems that the guerrilla leader in the valley, Commander Masud, is sticking to his tried and tested strategy of making a tactical withdrawal to defensive positions. From Islamabad here is Ian Howe:

[Begin recording] The Western diplomats said that Kabul radio had reported inaccurately that the Panjsher valley had been occupied. They said that up to last Friday, the battle inside the valley had not begun, as Commander Masud had not engaged the advancing forces.

According to the diplomats, Masud seems to be following a strategy that he used successfully against six earlier Soviet campaigns. This involves allowing the Russian troops to spread themselves out while he and his men withdraw to positions high in the mountains and into the many caves of the valley. The diplomats say the guerrillas would hope to draw small units into areas that have been mined and wait to begin harassing small isolated garrisons.

Intelligence observers are quoted as saying that they expect the Panjsher campaign to last at least some weeks as previous offensives have done. These observers say there could be heavy casualties on both sides depending on the extent to which the mujahidin take on the Russian troops, but they do not think the offensive will deal a crushing blow to the resistance.

The diplomats believe the column that moved into the valley is made up of Soviet airborne and motorized rifle units and security forces together with some Afghan infantry and commanders. Soviet and Afghan artillery units are also said to be there. The high altitude saturation bombing which proceeded the advance is said to have been carried out by planes flying directly from the Soviet Union supported by tactical aircraft and attack helicopters from bases inside Afghanistan. The Western diplomats' assessment is that the carpet bombing and the size of the force involved are unprecedented for the Russians and represent an escalation of the fighting. [end recording]

Heavy Soviet Bombardment

BK301540 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] According to reports, heavy bombardment by Soviet planes continues around Qandahar and the Panjsher valley of Afghanistan, which resulted in death and injuries to a large number of citizens.

Meanwhile, the Western correspondents expressed doubts on Radio Kabul's claim of the success of the Soviet solidiers' offensives against the mujahidin in the Panjsher valley. The Western diplomats say that the mujahidin in the valley are following the same tactics by which earlier they have foiled (?several) Soviet attacks.

Karachi: Rebels Sever Kabul-USSR Highway Link

BK301024 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the fighting between the Afghan mujahidin and the Soviet and Karmal forces has spread outside the Panjsher valley. The mujahidin have cut off the link between Kabul and the Soviet Union by blocking the Salang Highway at four places.

Voice of Islamic Revolution on Recent Operations

GF280850 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Our Muslim brothers staged a lightning attack in Paktia Province and killed some Soviet soldiers. To avenge this, the Soviet enemy bombed residential areas with six aircraft; this resulted in damage to most of the houses. Our brothers succeeded in shooting down a Soviet war plane in these operations, but no news has yet been received on the fate of this airplane.

One of our (?mujahidin) brothers informed us that due to the bombing of residential areas in Vardak Province, a large number of our brothers and sisters were martyred and many houses were extensively damaged.

Our mujahidin brothers attacked a base of the deceived Karmal forces in (Babajir) in Herat Province and succeeded in killing 12 of the deceived persons of the Karmal regime. In these victorious operations, 11 people were wounded from among the misguided and 2 (?caches) of heavy weapons were seized by our brothers as booty.

Babrak Karmal Chairs PDPA Politburo Session

LD290510 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] The PDPA Central Committee Politburo in its periodical session, chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, considered the issue of salary raises of personnel, employees, and workers of ministries, departments, institutions, and government enterprises; price improvements in the country; and organization of national work competition.

As Babrak Karmal announced at the glorious session on the occasion to mark the 6th anniversary of the April Revolution, specific measures have been taken to raise relatively the salary level of government personnel and employees — their salaries have risen by an average 18.7 percent. The salary increase is payable from 21 April. For this purpose, an extra 1.3 billion afghanis is needed to be paid by the government.

In accordance with this decision, salaries of civil servants between 1-10 ranks are being increased by 3.3 to 31.25 percent, and salaries of employees and workers between above-grade to 10th grade by 1.8 to 37.4 percent.

The salaries of employees and workers in the year ending 20 March 1982 in average have been increased by 24.6 percent; with the new percentage increase an average rise of 43.3 percent has taken place since the victory of the April Revolution in order to realize social justice in the country.

It should be mentioned that the salaries of the above-grade and beyond-grade personnel are not being increased.

In accordance with the recent decision, the 11th grade of employees and workers has been eliminated and the minimum salary and wage of an employee or a worker has been set at 2,000 afghanis.

The salary raises of the workers and employees were announced on the basis of the new phase's spirit, initiated by Babrak Karmal. This is another important step to improve relatively the living standard of the workers, toiling employees, and low-grade government civil servants.

It is specified in the Politburo resolution that companies and private enterprises cannot pay less than the specified minimum salary.

Workers, employees, and personnel of social organizations, institutions, banks, government, and mixed companies whose salaries are less than the specified level will benefit from the specified salary raise, otherwise they cannot benefit from this increase.

Babrak Karmal emphatically instructed that price rises parallel to the rise of salaries of the workers and employees should be seriously prevented. For this purpose, instructions have been issued to all ministries and departments which control the activities of the government and mixed enterprises or companies to take necessary measures to increase production and to better and increase the supply of commodities needed by the public.

The Ministry of Commerce and the DRA peasant cooperatives should provide larger quantity of commodities needed by public and supply them in retail to the public. The municipalities and local organs of the government administration should seriously control the price rise in the commodities needed by the public.

At this session of the Politburo, the general prices situation in the country was broadly considered and necessary measures were taken to control prices and to prevent price rises that badly affect the life of the country's toilers.

At this session of the Politburo, the organization of nationwide work competition was considered. These work competitions will be carried out to mark the 20th anniversary of the PDPA and successful implementation of productivity plans for 1984.

In assessing the role and importance of work competition in the processes of increasing production and improving the country's economy, Babrak Karmal said:

Work competition should be effectively used as an important means for enhancing [words indistinct] work and training of toilers' collectives to control and administer production. [as heard]

The Politburo resolution specifies awards, commendation certificates, and other measures for material encouragment.

At this session of the Politburo, a series of other issues were also considered and discussed and necessary decisions were made.

BAKHTAR Views Conclusion of Reagan's PRC Visit

LD010657 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Kabul, April 30, BAKHTAR: A political observer of BIA writes: The recently-concluded official visit of Ronald Reagan to China is conducive to the beginning of another round of escalation of tension arising from the open and secret deals between international imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism and China's expansionism.

The reliable international news media have already given warning about the new precarious position in which the world in general and Asia in particular world be involved.

Among others, daily *NAWDAW* [as received], organ of the Communist Party of Vietnam has written that Reagan's visit to China means the inception of an increasing tension and the epoch of a new cold war.

The political observers believe that the recently-concluded Sino-U.S. agreements, would bring new dangers to the various regions of Asia including the Pacific region, Far East and the countries surrounding China.

The substance of the speeches exchanged and essence of the five agreements signed between the two sides are clearly meant to strengthen China to stand against the world of peace, progress, democracy and justice and in this manner to disrupt the balance of power in Asia to the interest of the new Beijing Washington-Tokyo axis.

The contract on the sale of the most modern nuclear reactors by U.S. to China is evidently in opposition to the Soviet Union.

The demagogic statements exchanged in the official receptions were indicative of the differences between them but such differences were not only not reflected in the concluded documents but the documents were prepared in such a manner as to reflect unanimity and sincere friendship between the two sides.

Both sides in their official statements have expressed their common views on the so-called need of countering the Soviet Union, increasing their shameless interventions in the internal affairs of revolutionary Afghanistan, Kampuchea and Vietnam.

It must be noted that Ronald Reagan can sign any agreements with the Leaders of hegemonist China but cannot achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union to blockade it. Neither will it be able to crush the revolutionary movements in Asia.

Ershad Discusses National Issues With Parties

BK301606 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] President Ershad held talks on national issues with the 6-party Ulema Front, and the Muslim League, T. Ali group, in Dhaka yesterday evening.

Briefing newsmen after the talks, the special assistant to the president, Mr A.R. Yusuf, said the Front and the Muslim League mainly demanded the introduction of Islamic provisions and announcement of the date of national election.

The Ulema Front demanded the revival of the suspended Constitution and holding of both presidential and parliamentary elections on the basis of it. Barrister Yusuf said the Front also vehemently opposed the claim of the two alliances that the 5-point demands have become national demands on the ground that these did not contain any Islamic provision.

The Ulema congratulated the president for establishing the Zakat [Islamic tax] Board, declaration of Friday as weekly holiday, setting up of an Islamic mission, and completing the construction and beautification of the Baitul Mukarram Mosque. The special assistant to the president said, in its 14-point demand, the Muslim League, T. Ali group, wanted immediate announcement of the national election date.

Replying to the party's demand for declaring the country an Islamic Republic, President Ershad said the elected parliament will decide the issue.

The Ulema Front was represented by 11 leaders while the Muslim League was represented by 16 leaders with Mr T. Ali as the head in the meetings which were held separately. The president was aided by prime minister, Mr Ataur Rahman Khan; the home minister, Major General Abdul Manan Siddique; the establishment minister, Major General Mohabbat Jan Chowdhury; and the special assistant to the president.

Delhi Cites Ershad on Lifting Martial Law

BK010751 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] The Bangladesh president, Lieutenant General Ershad, says he will lift martial law only after an elected government is installed. General Ershad was replying to an opposition demand that martial law be lifted from today and elections expedited for transfer of power to elected representatives.

Minister Urges India To Refrain From Fencing

BK010724 Dhaka BSS in English 0651 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Dhaka May 1 BSS — Bangladesh Home Minister General Manan Siddique has accused India of violating the joint Indo-Bangladesh guidelines by erecting barbed-wire fence along the entire over 4,000 km boundary and urged Delhi to "refrain" from going ahead with the plan.

The minister said 150-yard on both the sides of the border is to be kept free from "defense works of any nature" under the guidelines and reiterated Dhaka's views that the barbed-wire fencing clearly falls in the category of a defense structure.

Nearly a fortnight ago armed conflict flared up between the border security forces at northern area when India took up the construction of barbed-wire within the 150-yard no-mans land. Physical obstruction from Bangladesh led to opening of fire by Indian forces.

The home minister said India showed "open disregard" to the peace-keeping joint border guideline and universally accepted international norm that no structure is unilaterally erected on the zero-line of any border between two countries.

He also regretted that at the operational level, the Bangladesh Border Security Force (BDR) consistently requested its counterpart across the boundary for bilateral meetings at various levels but "Indian side showed reluctance" to attend these.

Bangladesh, the home minister said, rejects the barbed-wire fence as it was incompatible with the spirit of good neighbourliness, cooperation, mutual understanding and friendly relations between the two neighbouring countries.

Task Force Set Up To Tackle Punjab Problem

BK011335 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] The home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, has said a task force is being formed to deal with the situation in Punjab. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh, he said the government is eager to solve the Punjab problem. We are trying our best to improve the situation. He said the administration is also taking action against terrorists. Steps to deal with them have been discussed at the meeting with state officials. Mr Sethi said an informal dialogue is on with Akalis for solving the tangle.

Mr Sethi, who was accompanied by the home secretary, Mr (M.M.K. Wali), went straight to Raj Bhavan [governor's house] from the airport for talks with State Governor Mr B.D. Pandey and senior officials. The Punjab Congress-I secretaries, Mr Basant Singh and Mr (Shamsher Singh Dhullo), also met the home minister to discuss the situation. Mr Sethi has since returned to the capital.

Sikh High Priests Issue Appeal Against Violence

BK0'0324 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] The five high priests of the highest seats of Sikh religion have issued a joint appeal to various Sikh organizations operating from within the Golden Temple complex to create a congenial atmosphere in the coutnry. The appeal was read out to representatives of these organizations by the head priest of Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion], Jathedar Kirpal Singh. They directed these organizations to avoid recurrence of any violent incidents, use of firearms, killings, or repression of anybody in the complex.

BBC Report

BK010136 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 1 May 84

(Mark Tully report in "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] A new initiative has been launched to bring to an end the feud between rival Sikh factions in the Indian state of Punjab. Five Sikh high priests have called for an end to the violence within the Golden Temple in Amritsar — the base of the extremist leader, Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale. Mark Tully sent this report from Delhi:

[Begin recording] One of the main aims of the appeal by the Sikh high priests is to prevent further violence within the Golden Temple. Atmosphere there has been extremely tense since the killing more than 2 weeks ago of a prominent supporter of the Sikh extremist leader, Sant Jarnail Bhindranwale. This killing within the immediate vicinity of the temple led to reprisal killings by Bhindranwale's supporters, at least one of which took place within the temple itself.

In their appeal, Sikh high priests said no one should fire a gun within the temple and no one should be murdered within the complex. At the same time, the five high priests appealed for unity among Sikhs to make their movement for Sikh religious and political demands a success. This shows that the appeal of the five high priests, who carry great weight in the Sikh community, has political connotations too. The senior-most priest, who is the priest of the Akal Takht, or seat of temple power in the Golden Temple, is known to be a confidant of the leader of the Sikh religious party, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal.

A split within this party developed last week between the supporters of Longowal and the group who said they recognized Bhindranwale as their leader. The appeal of the five priests is clearly an attempt to force Bhindranwale to bring his supporters back into (? Longowal).

For Bhindranwale, the message of the appeal is that he must support the official party leadership and restrain his armed terrorists within the temple, otherwise an edict might be issued ordering him out. That edict will be very difficult for Bhindranwale to disobey. He will then be seen to be disputing what is virtually the equivalent of a papal edict of Catholics. That would greatly damage his reputation as a religious teacher which is the basis of his power within the Sikh community. [end recording].

National Security Amendment Bill Approved

BK010518 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Parliament has given its approval for the National Security Amendment Bill 1984. The Rajya Sabha gave its assent to the bill yesterday after rejecting a statutory resolution moved by Mr L.K. Advani, Bharatiya Janata Party, and Dr (Bapu Kalwatte), Janata, disapproving the National Security Ordinance promulgated by the president on the 5th of last month. The Lok Sabha passed the bill last Monday. The bill, among other things, seeks to replace the ordinance which amends the act to increase from 10 days to 15 days the maximum period within which grounds of detention might, in exceptional circumstances, be communicated to the detenue.

Justifying the promulgation of the ordinance, the home minister, Mr Sethi, said it was necessary in view of the situation prevalent in Punjab and Chandigarh. He said there was nothing wrong in promulgating the ordinance when the Rajya Sabha was not in session, as it did not overstep any constitutional provisions. The home minister said the provisions of the act would be in operation for 1 year and will be applicable to Punjab and Chandigarh only.

British Reports on Plan To End Gulf War Denied

BK301609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] New Delhi has denied press reports circulated on the basis of a British newspaper story that India has forwarded a 5-point plan to Iran to end its war with Iraq. A government spokesman said today there is no substance in the story and India had not sent any such plan. India has, however, been in contact with the parties concerned and several other interested countries to bring about an early end of the Gulf war.

USSR To Aid Superthermal Power Project in Bihar

BK301439 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] The Soviet Union has agreed to provide assistance worth 200 crore rupees for the (Kahalgaon) superthermal power project in Bihar. This was stated by the minister of state for energy, Mr Arif Mohammad Khan, in the Raja Sabha.

He said the state government has handed over 47 hectares of land to the National Thermal Power Corporation for setting up the project. He said the first unit of 210 megawatts is likely to be commissioned by 1989-90.

Nuclear Waste Disposal Plant Developed

BK011034 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] The country's nuclear power program has taken a new leap toward total safety to the environment with the setting up of the first nuclear waste disposal plant at the Tarapur atomic power complex. The director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Center, Dr (P.C. Ayengar), told PTI that the entire plant, known as the nuclear waste immobilization plant, has been developed indigenously. With the setting up of the plant, India has joined the select band of countries like France and Britain who use the same technology to dispose off the highly radioactive nuclear waste.

Party Leader Urges Ziaul Haq To Hold Dialogue

GF291152 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 29 Apr 84 p 1

[By correspondent]

[Text] Islamabad — The chief of the Jama'at-e-Islami, Main Tufail Mohammad, has urged Pakistan's President Mohammad Ziaul Haq to start a dialogue with politicians to end the present deadlock.

Addressing party workers in Lahore on Friday night, Mian Tufail said the country was facing an unprecedented crisis which could be overcome only by holding elections under the 1973 constitution. He said the elections should be held on the basis of proportional representation.

He urged all political parties to take part in the elections which the present government might hold as it would facilitate the transfer of power to a civilian government.

But a top MRD leader Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan said in Lahore on Friday that the MRD would not hold talks with the government unless it announced the election schedule under the 1973 constitution.

Mr Nasrullah, who arrived in Lahore on Friday, told newsmen that a dialogue with the government to sort out details regarding the transfer of power could only be fruitful if basic issues connected with the polls were resolved.

He rejected August 12 plan of General Zia and his proposal for a national security council and said these would fatally cripple democratic institutions in the country.

Demanding an end to martial law, the restoration of constitution, the rule of law, civil liberties and freedom of judiciary and the press, Mr Nasrullah said there was national consensus on these issues.

He was optimistic about bringing about a broader unity among political forces in the country and hinted that he might meet the leaders of other parties including Jama'at-e-Islami and the Muslim League (Pagara group) which are outside the MRD fold.

According to another report, the authorities have shifted two prominent leaders — Mr Mumtaz Bhutto of the Pakistan People's Party, and Mr Bukhsh Palejo, chief of Awami Tehrik, from Landhi jail to Services Hospital in Karachi for treatment.

Mr Palejo is suffering from ear ailment while Mr Mumtaz is a heart patient. According to press reports, both of them are seriously ill.

Sind Home Department Reminds Public of Procession Ban

GF291404 Karachi DAWN in English 27 Apr 84 p 4

[Text] Karachi, April 26: The Sind home department has once again reminded the public in general and trade unions in particular that under MLRS [martial law regulations] 4 and 5 taking out of processions and publication and circulation of pamphlets, posters and any type of literature likely to promote or attempt to promote feelings of enmity or hatred between different classes of people are banned.

On the occasion of May Day, the trade unions will, however, be allowed to hold meetings within the factory premises or within the defined premises of their offices and public halls, says an official handout.

For holding meetings in public halls, the prior permission of the district magistrate concerned is necessary.

DAWN: Students Boycott Classes at Punjab University

GF270843 Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] Lahore, April 22: Students of the Punjab University boycotted classes today on the call of students who were arrested during their movement against the imposition of the ban on students unions.

According to a press release isssued here today by the Islami Jamiat-i Tulaba (defunct), students of the old campus let off crackers and gathered in the lawn in front of the department of pharmacy, where the Jamiat leaders addressed them.

After the meeting, the students took out a procession and marched up to the oriental college, where they were lathi-charged and teargassed, and police entered the law college hostel where fleeing students had taken refuge.

Minor clashes also took place between police and students at the new campus. Some incidents of brickbatting were also reported. At the new campus, students also threw crackers on the police. Later, the processions gathered at the lawn of a new campus hostel, where the former president of the students union, Mr Amirul Azim, and other Jamiat leaders addressed them. They demanded the immediate release of detained students, the withdrawal of cases registered against them, restoration of students unions and other organisations, and the removal of police from educational institutions.

The Jamiat claimed that in today's incidents, five policemen and eleven students were injured.

Earlier, Mr Amirul Azim, addressing the gathering, said that they were not only strugglingfgor the restoration of their unions, but also for the restoration of democratic institutions in the country. He said that students would be in the vanguard of the Save Pakistan Movement, as "at present Pakistan's very survival is in danger, and we are ready to launch a joint struggle for the restoration of democracy and the supremacy of the 1973 constitution.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Addresses Majlis Session
LD301303 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani speech at Majlis open session on 30 April — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On behalf of the Majlis deputies, I offer congratulations to the Lord of the Era, his righteous deputy, the leader of the revolution, and the entire nation on the occasion of the feast of Bi'that. I deem it necessary to mention the very important points the imam of the nation explained yesterday during his meeting with state officials.

During that sensitive meeting and in that sensitive historic juncture, the imam noted two main dangers that might threaten the revolution. It is clear that these dangers have affected his holiness's sacred heart too. It is right that our nation, our responsible officials, and the esteemed deputies of the Majlis should pay attention to these two basic points. We particularly draw the attention of the magnanimous clergy to these two points.

The first danger that might threaten the revolution comes from the pseudo-Muslim holy men and those who claim to be more Catholic than the pope. The imam briefly stressed this point. In a country and a system, in which the leader himself is the source of imitation, and in a country in which there are six exalted ulema in the Council of Guardians and dozens of such religious figures in its Majlis, there is no place left for such pseudo-ulema to make comments such as: Islamic principles are not observed in Iran. The imam stressed and drew attention to this sensitive point and warned the influential ulema or the transgressors of ethics. This issue should be taken very seriously.

The second issue is a very dangerous threat that, if we were to neglect, might turn our completely free elections into trouble for the revolution and the people. Free elections require sociablity, observance of Islamic morals, and awareness of criticisms, calumny, and selfish vilifications. Therefore, our nation must take the imam's warning very seriously. They should watch particularly the counterrevolution and the enemies who might try to fish in troubled waters by creating discord and division. They might try to infiltrate through weak points that might exist as the result of these free elecitons, and they might disrupt the valuable unity in the ranks of our nation. We warn those who try such tricks and we call upon our nation to be alert and to recognize the rumormongers and the secret hands that add fuel to the fire. We call upon the nation to foil these plots through its own awareness. We are also extremely grateful to our dear, alert, and great imam who offers his instructions during the very sensitive times. May God's peace and mercy be upon you all.

IRNA Account
LD301142 Tehran IRNA in English 1006 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Speaking in the open session of the Majlis here today, the Majlis speaker, Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said that the martyrdom of the Tehran Majlis deputy, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Shahabadi in warfronts, was a source of honour for the Majlis.

He also expressed his congratulations on the occasion of Id al-Mab'as (commissioning Mohammad S.A.W. to Prophethood). He further referred to the speech of Imam Khomeyni on this occasion in which the imam drew the attention of the authorities of the country to two dangers that threaten the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that it was necessary that the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Majlis deputies pay attention to the two points raised by the imam in his Sunday address.

One of the points brought up was the danger coming from the pseudo Muslims who may pose a danger to the Islamic revolution of Iran. However, he added, under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni and also the competent ulema in the Guardian's Council and also the committed Majlis ulema, there is no place for such elements.

The second issue was that of the Majlis elections that some discord sowers may try to fish in troubled waters and create schism. He urged the nation to be alert towards the issue and thwart any plot in this respect.

Radio Iran Comment
GF301854 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Hashemi-Rafsanjani termed those clergymen who oppose the regime the "pot that called the kettle black" and confirmed the rumors concerning very deep differences and rifts among the officials of the Islamic Republic. Hashemi-Rafsanjani confessed that there is a current wave of opposition to the Islamic regime sweeping among the nongovernment clergy and that there are great differences among the government leaders. Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed grave concern over the fate of the revolution and the Islamic Republic, stating that the current dualism can be likened to a very dangerous blight against the very being of the Islamic Republic.

The head of the Majlis of mullahs confirmed that the dualism has been further intensified as a result of the recent elections and that the opposition to the coming Majlis has assumed extensive dimensions. He warned those clergymen, whom he labeled "rumormongers," to stop opposing the regime and also to stop criticizing the regime.

We remind you that as result of the disgraceful cheating in the Majlis elections, a wave of opposition to the leftist clerical faction and monopolist party zealots has engulfed Majlis representatives, government officials, and a number of Friday imams.

During today's session of the Majlis, which was directly broadcast on mediumwave, a number of deputies severely criticized the policies of the government of Mir-Hoseyn Musavi and noted high prices, inflation, and the shortage of essential goods that have severely agitated the population.

Majlis Deputy Hasan Hasanzadeh warned government officials that if they do not stop all this lawlessness and irresponsibility in the economy, the control of daily increasing unhappiness among the people will become difficult. The Tabriz deputy condemned the spreading of social injustice and said the Supreme Judicial Council and apparatus are without any programs or goals. He also confessed to the high level of theft and bribery in the administrative machinery of Azarbayjan and that the file of thefts and embezzlements in Tabriz abatoir continues to be in limbo as a result of the influence of a number of powerful individuals.

Majlis Speaker Elaborates on Kordestan Problems

LD302057 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Officials in charge of intelligence and members of the intelligence council at the Hamzeh Headquarters met with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Majlis. At this meeting, Hashemi-Rafsanjani elaborated on the problems in Kordestan and interference there by world oppressors. He praised the role played by the combatants of Islam in fighting mercenaries of Eastern and Western oppression inside the country.

He said: World oppression intended to use the Kurdish-inhabited areas of Syria, Iraq, Turkey, and Iran as a lever to exert pressure on Iran and other countries. In this connection, the inhuman treatment of the oppressed Kurds by the former regime of Iran and savage attacks by the Iraqi regime to crush the Kurdish people had prepared the ground for the growth of mercenary and infidel groups. But the Islamic Republic of Iran has never tried to intimidate the Kurdish people; rather, it has always tried to reassure the noble Kurdish people that the Islamic Republic treats them just as it treats the inhabitants of Tehran. The only difference is the Islamic Republic is prepared to make good all the injustice done by the satanic regime in the past. Negligence in making use of economic and human resources has kept the Kurdish people in economic and cultural poverty. We should place special priority on this matter to compensate for the shortages.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Sunni brothers, assured that there is no difference between them and the Shi'ites in the eyes of the law and that they will not be imposed upon, should try to rectify all the damage done in the past, more than they have already done, in order to cut off the hands of the foreigners and Eastern and Western enemies.

The speaker of the Majlis, referring to the crimes committed by Saddam Husayn in Kordestan and the use of chemical and other bombs to pound those regions, said: The Kurdish people have now clearly realized that the regime in Iraq and the corrupt and mercenary groups which claimed to support the Kurdish people, viewed them as prey. Now that they cannot count on the people, they bomb them. Hashemi-Rafsanjani asked the brothers in the Guards Corps, the Mobilisation Corps, and the Armed Forces to treat the Kurdish people kindly and not allow the enemies of Islam to mislead them. In return, they should crush the rebels and the mercenaries of the East and the West as much as possible.

Radio Iran Reports Clashes in Kordestan

Majlis Candidate Killed

GF261150 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1830 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] Contrary to the statements issued by the Islamic Republic, it was impossible for them to hold elections in Kordestan because of the clashes that occurred during the voting, during which most of the ballot boxes were set ablaze by the people. So far, Qambar Ahmadi, a candidate of the Islamic Republic for the so-called Islamic Majlis, was killed at Baneh in a bold operation carried out by the Kurdish peshmarga.

166 Guards Killed

GF261156 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1830 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] According to reports received from various world news agencies, Kurdish combatants in the course of their clashes with the Islamic Republic regime have killed 166 guards in Saqqez, Baneh, Mesr Dasht, and Piranshah.

According to reports received from Kurdish combatants, in these operations which took place about 10 days ago, 2 Kurdish combatants were killed.

Turkish Minister of State Comments on Trade Talks

LD281050 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, 28 April, IRNA — The visiting Turkish minister of state, Ismail Ozdaglar, said here today that there was ample opportunity for Iran and Turkey to cooperate in the field of machine manufacturing.

In an interview with IRNA the Turkish minister who arrived here April 23 heading a trade and economic delegation, said that due to great experience of the Islamic Republic of Iran in tractor manufacturing and production of machineries, both countries could cooperate in these fields.

Asked about the results of his three-day talks with the Iranian officials and also the objective of his visit, Ozdaglar said that it aimed at signing an agreement to boost the bilateral trade to three billion dollars (1.5 billion dollars for exports and 1.5 billion dollars for imports). Furthermore, the trip aimed at exploring the possibilities of cooperation with Iran on joint projects.

He further told IRNA that the trade committee has been studying the new items that both sides wish to be included in the list and the basic commodities are on top of the list of the goods to be exchanged.

The energy committee, he added, has been studying the proposals, and if an agreement is reached the Islamic Republic of Iran would export six million tons of crude oil to Turkey annually. He added that the committee has also been studying export of Iranian natural gas to Turkey, however, so far no agreement has been reached on this issue.

According to the Turkish minister another committee has been set up to study industrial and technical cooperation. Furthermore Iran and Turkey could cooperate in pharamaceutical industry.

Ozdaglar further told IRNA that the Islamic Republic of Iran could assist Turkey in the field of petrochemical industries and oil exploration and drilling, most probably this would be included in the letter of understanding which is to be signed between the two countries.

The Turkish state minister added that his country considered the Islamic Republic of Iran a good trade partner. "When Iran concludes an agreement with another country, it meets its obligations and this is a signficant factor in trade relations among countries," he added. He stressed that this has been among the reasons that Turkey has insisted on trade relations with Iran.

Commenting on the status of the trade relations, he said that so far both sides have reached positive results and there has been no negative aspect to it.

After the arrival of the Turkish delegation, in order to speed up the negotiations, four committees, banking and trade, energy and transportation, industrial and technical cooperation, and coordination have been set up.

The Turkish state minister described the future of bilateral trade ties as promising and good. The Turkish prime minister, Turgut Ozal arrived here this morning and is expected to sign a letter of understanding with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Officials Confer With Turkey's Ozdaglar

Oil Minister Gharazi

GF291916 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Text] Turkish Minister of State for Economic Affairs Ismail Ozdaglar, who is heading an economic delegation to Tehran, held a meeting with Iranian Minister of Petroleum Seyyed Mohammad Gharazi. The two men exchanged views on cooperation between the two countries on oil. In a statement after the meeting, Minister of Petroleum Mohammad Gharazi told our correspondent:

At the meeting, the Turkish officials asked that Iran's oil exports to Turkey be raised to an annual rate of 1 million tons. The discussion of this request is about to start. Apart from this, the Turkish officials asked that Iranian natural gas be exported to Turkey as well.

Mohammad Gharazi recalled that a total of 100,000 barrels of oil per day, that is to say over 5,000 million barrels per year, is being exported to Turkey. He stressed that the meeting with the Turkish officials also discussed the question of exchanging oil and petrochemical experts and matters related to exploring and producing oil. A decision was adopted providing for the sending of Iranian delegations to Turkey in the future.

Foreign Minister Velayati

LD301812 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said here today that the Iran-Turkey relations were very limited before the victory of the Islamic revolution. But the Islamic Republic of Iran, he added, changed the orientation of its relations from the superpowers to Third World countries especially the Islamic countries.

Speaking in a meeting with Turkish state minister, Ismail Ozdaglar, Dr. Velayati said that the Islamic Republic believed the Third World countries especially the Islamic ones should supply the needs of one another themselves and should eliminate dependency upon superpowers through increasing their cooperations.

The Turkish minister also expressed the interest taken by the Turkish nation and government in the Islamic Republic adding that they were determined to expand their relations with Islamic countries giving priority to their neighbour Iran.

Coverage of Turkish Prime Minister's Visit

Meeting With Khamene'i

LD011010 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, who is visiting our country at the head of a high-ranking economic and political delegation, met and conferred last evening with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister; Aqazadeh, minister of state in charge of executive affairs; Mir Salim, top adviser to the president; several Turkish officials; and the two countries' ambassadors were present at the meeting.

The Turkish prime minister first expressed hope for the expansion of relations between Iran and Turkey in increasing cooperation between the two fraternal countries. He conveyed the warm and friendly message of Turkish President Kenan Evren to our country's president and said: I hope relations between Iran and Turkey, already expanded since the revolution, will expand even further.

President Khamene'i referred to common cultural links and interests between the two neighboring Muslim countries of Iran and Turkey, adding: Fortunately, the volume of trade between the two countries is considerable and we believe that there is still scope for increasing economic exchanges. Pointing out that the issue of transporting gas or oil to the shores of the Mediterranean Sea or the Black Sea is worth study by the two countries and that it can strengthen their economic ties. The president said: It is time now for our two countires to take more effective steps in adopting common political stances in connection with world issues along with deepening and expanding economic relations, since taking common stances by two friendly countries can help to solve many of the problems and issues of the region.

The president stressed: Show of force and demonstrations of power by superpowers in the region are realities which necessitate

understanding among the friendly countries of the region in order to confront them. Emphasizing that Iran and Turkey cannot remain indifferent toward events in the Middle East, including the issues of occupied Palestine, Lebanon, and Afghanistan, the president said: These wounds should heal and to achieve this, the initiative, for the main part, should no doubt be with the countries and governments that share the interests of the region.

Answering the Turkish prime minister who in mentioning the war had emphasized that he had not come to Iran as a mediator but that he was interested in finding out the views of the president on the current war, Mr Khamene'i said: The present regime of Iraq, having started the war and having inflicted considerable damage, the most part of which cannot be rectified, has in fact imposed the war on us in order to deal a blow to the Islamic Revolution. We can only save and protect ourselves from this blow by ending the war with victory.

Finally, the president emphasized the need to expand relations between the two countries more than ever before and asked the Turkish prime minister to convey his warm greetings to the president and the Muslim nation of Turkey.

Ankara Report

TA301826 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Prime Minister Turgut Ozal is continuing to hold talks in Tehran. The protocol prepared at the end of the joint Turkish-Iranian economic committee meetings is expected to be signed this evening. An agreement was reached during the talks by which Turkey will buy 6 million tons of crude oil from Iran this year and pay for it in goods.

Prime Minister Ozal held another meeting today with Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi and discussed certain issues which were not concluded during the talks held between the two countries' delegations.

Prime Minister Ozal met Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani in the afternoon. President 'Ali Khamane'i then received the prime minister. Our correspondents report from Tehran that Prime Minister Ozal this evening will give a dinner in honor of the Iranian Prime Minister at the Turkish Embassy.

Meanwhile, State Minister Ismail Ozdaglar who headed the Turkish delegation at the Tehran talks told Turkish Radio and Television that the volume of trade between Turkey and Iran could reach and even exceed last year's levels. He said that the Turkish side was trying to expand its commercial relations with Iran. He said: We tried to (?activate) our relations. We held concrete talks and we agreed to set up pilot installations for the manufacture of machine tools; to undertake joint investments in the chemical industry, glass industry, metallurgy, food industry, gas industry, medicine and chemicals; and to ensure that the Iranian installations in those fields work at full capacity. We concluded promising deals especially regarding the manufacture of valves, hydraulic valves, and carpets. I believe that we can reach a trade volume of $3 billion next year. The Iranian officials' approach to the issue is very positive. I was satisfied with the results. I believe that we will return with good results to Turkey. Ozdaglar said that Iran agreed in principle to establish an oil pipeline between Turkey and Iran but that the issue would be discussed only when the war ended in Iran.

Under Secretary for the Treasury and Foreign Trade Ekrem Pakdemirli said that in return for the oil to be bought from Iran, Turkey would export wheat, barley, iron and steel products, sugar, and foodstuffs.

A Turkish-Iranian economic and commercial cooperation protocol is expected to be signed in Tehran this evening. Prime Minister Ozal will complete his official visit to Iran and return to Turkey tomorrow.

Armenians' Protest

GF301640 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] We have had a report from Iran stating that the Armenians of the country closed their shops and places of business on Saturday as a sign of protest against the presence of the Turkish prime minister in Tehran. The places were closed for 2 hours and many of them refused to reopen them.

Iranian, Syrian Ministers Discuss Oil Relations

JN260809 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran — In Tehran today, Syrian Oil and Mineral Resources Minister Ghazi ad-Durubi met with Iranian Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi. During the meeting, they discussed oil relations between Syria and Iran and the means to develop them.

Velayati Letter to Nicaraguan Counterpart Cited

LD281337 Tehran IRNA in English 1230 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — Nicaragua will open an embassy in Tehran and introduce an ambassador during the next coming months, said the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto Friday.

This was announced during a meeting of Iranian ambassador to Managua, Nicaragua, Mohammad Peyrovi, with that country's foreign minister in which the latter was presented with a letter from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Velayti's message, reiterating Iran's support for anti-imperialist struggles of the Government of Nicaragua, and condemned the U.S.'s recent hostile act in mining Nicaragua's ports. [sentence as received]

The Iranian ambassador, referring to Iraq's engaging in chemical warfare against the Islamic Republic, noted the danger if such inhumanistic acts were continued.

He stressed on the removal of the Baghdad regime as the major provision for putting an end to the Iraqi imposed war.

Commerce Minister, Delegation Leave for India
LD301112 Tehran IRNA in English 1004 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Iranian Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari at the head of a delegation comprised of Majlis deputies, officials of ministry of foreign affairs, mines and metals and commerce left here for a week long official visit to India.

Another Iranian economic and trade delegation headed by Deputy Commerce Minister Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji has been in India since April 20 and is conferring with officials of that country.

Iran's commerce minister is scheduled to assess the already held talks and make decisions about the expansion of exchanging goods between the two countries.

Violent Clashes Reported From Afghanistan
GF301420 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan said that violent clashes are taking place between the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries and the forces of Soviet occupation and Afghan regime forces in the cities of Qandahar and Herat.

The reports said that Soviet fighter planes have been bombing the city of Qandahar and surrounding villages for 45 days and that this bombing has forced the inhabitants of this area to leave their homes.

Ministry Announcement on UNESCO Office Attack
LD301953 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Iran's Culture and Higher Education Ministry said in an announcement here today that Thursday's attack against Iran's office at UNESCO was a "direct threat against world culture."

The ministry also said the attack had been designed by the United States and implemented by Iranian fugitives and "mercenaries who have crawled into the folds of their masters in order to overshadow the fourth anniversary of the shameful fiasco of the U.S.'s military invasion of Iran" in Tabas.

The Iranian ministry also called on cultural centres throughout the world to demand prosecution of people involved in the attack.

In coordinated operations on Thursday, unidentified members of terrorist groups attacked Iran's UNESCO office in Paris, the Iranian Embassy in the Hague, the Iranian consultate in London, and the office of Iran Air in Frankfurt.

The Iranian ambassador to the Hague and the head of Iran Air's office were injured during the attacks, and property damages were also reported.

Iraqi Envoy Confirms Attack on Saudi Tanker
GF301957 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Zionist Iraqi regime in the Swedish capital has confirmed officially the reports on the attack and hitting of the huge Saudi oil tanker by Iraqi planes.

In an interview with REUTER in Stockholm, the Iraqi charge d'affaires said that the Saudi tanker, which was on fire in the Persian Gulf last week, was subjected to an Iraqi attack. The charge d'affaires of the Saddam regime in Sweden did not refer to the destructive role of the Saddam regime in shattering the peace and security in the Persian Gulf.

It should be noted that the Saddam regime last week accused the Islamic Republic of Iran of attacking the Saudi oil tanker in spite of all objective evidence which confirmed that Iraqi planes had attacked the tanker.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,712
LD301758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,712 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] The exchange of sporadic artillery and heavy weapons fire continued yesterday in the southern fronts and the Majnun Islands. The exchange of fire between our forces and enemy forces were more intense in the Majnun Islands. The fighters of the Ground Forces continued to reinforce their defensive positions and to control the enemy's futile attempts on those islands. They also brought the positions, fortifications, and motorized columns of the Iraqi forces under their heavy fire and inflicted losses and casualties on them, killing a number of their forces.

On the Ilam, Bakhtaran border strip, Marivan, and Piranshah fronts, our forces continued to defend the positions under their protection; with reciprocal fire, they disrupted enemy movements and supply activities and stopped their engineering activities. By chasing one patrol group of the mercenaries of Saddam, our forces captured three of their RPG-7's and Kalashnikov rifles and completely destroyed four observation posts and one machine gun position of the Ba'thist mercenaries.

On the Arvand Rud front, the heroic personnel of the Gendarmerie — while maintaining their superiority of fire and continuing their defensive operations in their positions — silenced the fire of the Iraqi forces and inflicted losses and casualties on them.

Abadan yesterday came under the Iraqi forces' sporadic heavy weapons fire, which damaged more than 20 houses and shops.

Labor, Industry Ministers Issue 1 May Messages

LD201617 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 29, IRNA — Labour Minister Abolqasem Sarhadizadeh sent a message to workers throughout the country in anticipation of the International Labour Day, May the first. In his message to the Iranian workers he said that experts and his ministry have been pooling their best effort in order to reform the old labour laws of Iran in keeping with the dictates of the laws of Islam.

The labour minister also congratulated Iranian workers throughout the country on the occasion of the day and appreciated their efforts for promoting the country's industries and economy since the culmination of the Islamic revolution and especially since the eruption of the Iraq-Iran war. He dignified the Iranian workers for their self-sacrifing acts behind the fronts and noted that seldom a day passes without the martyrdom of one or more workers in the battlefronts.

Sarhadizadeh expressed hope that Iran's Muslim workers would firmly continue treading the path of Islam and furthering the country's economy in every aspect towards a thorough independence of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In a similar message the Iranian minister of industries, Mostafa Hashemi, today sent a message to the Iranian workers on the occasion of the day.

Hashemi said in his message that workers are exploited both in capitalistic and communist systems, though in a different man ner, whereas the Islamic Revolution in Iran has inspired workers with divine thoughts and helped them stand as firm bastions "in the various battlefronts for fighting against the enemies of humanity." The industries minister reminded that whereas the enemies of the Islamic revolution had flattered themselves about an eventual stoppage of Iran's industrial wheels in the early days of the revolution and after the outbreak of the war, Iran's industries now continue production in a satisfactory manner. Towards the end of his message the minister expressed hope that Iran's Muslim fighters would shortly triumph over elements of international blasphemy and their Ba'thist and Zionist agents.

IRNA Says Nine Iraqis Defect to Iran

LD221719 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Sanandaj, April 22, IRNA — Nine Muslim residents of the eastern Iraqi city of Sulaymaniyah defected to the Islamic Republic Saturday. They crossed the border into Iran through one of the northwestern regions.They include three women and three children.

On Friday an Iraqi soldier, who had deserted his unit, surrendered himself to the Islamic forces in the Dasht-e Zahab region of Bakhtaran Province.

Correction to Khomeyni 29 April Address

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Khomeyni Addresses Leaders on Elections," published in the 30 April South Asia *DAILY REPORT*, page I 7, first paragraph, line three:

. . . problems, considering the change in world conditions, are more widespread. (clarifying queried words)

Second paragraph, line two: . . . facing certain restrictions that were stifling their voices — yet even the limited amounts of their word that reached the world have engulfed the world in the light of Islam. Islam today is subjected to the same kind of restrictions, which are somewhat more widespread. In those days. . . (supplying indistinct words; clarifying queried words; rewording)

Third paragraph, line three: . . . should realize that there are still plots against it. You see that . . . (clarifying queried word; rewording)

Third paragraph, last line: . . . they try to weaken us from inside . . . (supplying indistinct word)

Fourth paragraph, line two: . . . is to create conflicts between those who . . . (clearing queried word)

Eighth paragraph, line four: . . . the world. They are seeking to impress, but we who are really seeking it, are stopped. So, we should . . . (providing indistinct words; changing "topped" to "stopped")